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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)
John Henits et al.) Attorney Docket No.: DIC-606
Serial No.:) Group Art Unit:
Filed: Concurrently) Examiner:
For: ENDLESS LOOP VOICE DATA) Date: December 15, 1993
STORAGE AND RETRIEVABLE)
APPARATUS AND METHOD)
THEREOF)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

S i r:

1. Preliminary Statements:

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

While this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(b), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists.

2. A list of the patent(s) and/or publication(s) is set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449 (Modified).

3. A copy of each of the items on PTO-1449 (Modified) is supplied herewith.

4. A concise explanation of each of the items listed on PTO-1449 (Modified) follows:

AA U.S. Patent No. 5,235,475 entitled DIGITAL AUDIO TAPE RECORDER issued August 10, 1993 to Tokumatsu et al.

This reference discloses a recorder in which data can be retrieved in a high-speed search. A digital audio tape recorder uses a rotary head (R-DAT) for the purpose of retrieving data from the DAT. The R-DAT is provided with selecting means for selecting code data having the largest number by comparing plural items of code data which are read out in a predetermined time and includes a switching means for switching the selected means between the rewind search for comparing the code data from sub-code data.

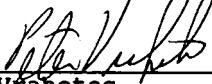
Although this patent discloses a device for a fast search on a digital audio tape, the tape does not have the same formatting as disclosed in the instant application. The applicant's invention segments a DAT into a plurality of file marks, each representing a given period so that a search of the DAT can be quickly made.

AB U.S. Patent No. 5,179,479 entitled METHOD OF HIGH SPEED SEARCHING FOR A DESIRED TAPE PORTION IN A DIGITAL AUDIO TAPE RECORDER issued January 12, 1993 to Ahn.

This reference discloses a method for searching the contents of a digital audio tape (DAT) which includes the use of a table of contents that is illustrated in FIG 6. The table of contents includes a frame and time information that is stored on the DAT. The size of the reel in which the DAT is housed as well as the rotational speed thereof is taken into calculation for the purpose of determining the location of specific data on the DAT. This reference shows

a typical table of contents that is used to find data thereon. There are no file marks that are separated by defined periods or groups that follow each file mark.

Respectfully submitted,


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Plus attachments: Form PTO-1449
One copy of each of the references